e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 59 February 2012 No. 2

Calendar				
Fri., Jan. 20	Pick up <i>Bugle</i> from table in PO lobby	Sun., Feb. 5	Ann Gordon exhibit begins, Art at Penn Place (see p 2)	
Wed., Jan. 25	Citizens Assoc. meeting, Town	Mon., Feb. 6	Monthly yard waste collection	
Thurs., Jan. 26	Hall, 8 pm Happy Hour, Town Hall, 2 pm	Tues., Feb. 7	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm	
Cambria Courts, Town 10:30 am to noon (see p national Night, GPES, (Public meeting on ideas for Cambria Courts, Town Hall,	Fri., Feb. 10	Film Society, <i>I Am Love</i> (not for children), Town Hall, 7 pm dinner, 8 pm film (see p 3)	
	10:30 am to noon (see p 5); International Night, GPES, 6 pm (see p 5)	Mon., Feb. 13	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm	
Wed., Feb. 1	Nursery School parents meeting, Town Hall, 7 pm	Tues., Feb. 14	Bugle deadline, 4 pm	
		Thurs., Feb. 16	Jam Session, Town Hall, 8 pm	
Sat., Feb. 4	Town Dinner, Town Hall, 6 pm (reservations required; see p 5); GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm	Wed., Feb. 22	Citizens Assoc. meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm (TBA)	
		Fri., Feb. 24	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO lobby	

Council Notes

The Town Council meeting, January 9, began with presentations by residents: Alison Pearce reported that the renovation of the Community Center is almost complete, and that a small ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the Garrett Park Nursery School was scheduled for January 17. She reported that the nursery school has full enrollment and is financially in "pretty good shape." Henrietta Keller then reminded everyone about the Film Society's presentation of Waitress the following Friday. Barbara Jackson expressed her concern about the consequences of possible state financing of Cambria Court renovations (the former tennis court adjacent to the swimming pool). She was particularly concerned about maintaining the integrity of town boundaries, as well as the potential of onerous regulations that might accompany state financing of renova-

In his Mayor's report, Chris Keller stated that the opening of the new Garrett Park Elementary School had gone smoothly, with only a few minor problems. In Councilmembers' reports, Jack Mandel reported on his investigations into making Garrett Park a Quiet Zone, so that locomotives would not sound their horns around the town's railroad crossing. As mentioned in the last *Bugle*, it is difficult to make this happen, but after 10 years, Forest Glen succeeded. To discuss the issue, Jack recently met with Ike Leggett's Regional Director for our area and with the president of the Randolph Hills Civic Association. Jack also reported on proposed changes to the MARC train schedule, noting that MARC was surprised at the extent of community response to the proposed changes.

Councilmember Beth Irons then discussed Ordinance 2011-05, introduced on December 12, which concerns changes in the Garrett Park zoning laws, based on the work of the Land Use Task Force. (To read the ordinance, see the town bulletin board at Penn Place and the town Web site.) Beth said that various revisions to the ordinance have been suggested, and so a Council work session has been scheduled for January 23

to consider these before the next Council meeting (Feb. 13), when the ordinance will again be on the agenda. In the discussion of the ordinance, Warren Kornberg stated that extensions to houses should be included in the calculation of the house lot coverage. Natalie Shelton stated that alterations that make a house more interesting need to be given special consideration.

Ordinance 2012-1, amending the FY 2012 Capital and Operating Budget, was introduced; it will be considered for adoption at the February Council meeting.

Finally, Mayor Keller requested that Councilmembers develop a series of questions on policies that govern the rental of the Garrett Park Town Hall. These questions will form the basis of the development of a more consistent Town Hall rental policy. At issue are policies that govern the charges for frequent use of the Town Hall by profit-making groups led by non–Garrett-Parkers.

Bert Zbar

Art at Penn Place

The work of long-time Garrett Park resident Ann Gordon will be on display at Penn Place beginning February 5. Ann writes:

"My painting, 'Donal's Brushes,' is an homage to Donal McLaughlin, a cherished friend and adviser. After his death I was given a can of his brushes. While sitting in my window for a few weeks, the brushes became a painting.

"I like to create a dialog with what I see and what I put down with a brush. My paintings tell a story. They track where I have been and who was with me. I tell the story of the quality of light and time of day. Sometimes my paintings express an emotion that I cannot put into words. I like to work on site. If that means sweat and bugs, so be it.

"Art has been my life. I see the world as a canvas. I have been a working artist in Montgomery County for 40 years, beginning as an Adult Education teacher. For 16 years I taught ceramics in various schools around Montgomery County, including the now historical building at the Garrett Park School. I have a BFA from American University with a concentration in painting. In 1985 I went to work as an Arts Specialist for the U.S. Army. I worked at Arlington Hall, Ft. McNair, Ft. Meyer, and Walter Reed. In 2005 I retired and now devote my time to painting. Several days a week you can find me at the Smithsonian American Art Museum guiding tours for children and adults."

> Visit Garrett Park's Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov

More "Scouting for Books"

Scouts from Garrett Park Pack 521 are collecting used books for the World Bank's Book Project. The books go to schools and libraries in developing countries around the world.

Donations are welcome of books suitable for school children ages 4 to 18, as well as teaching materials (exceptions are materials on U.S. government or history, religious books, and trade publications and journals).

Since starting collections in the fall of 2007, scouts from Garrett Park Pack 521 have collected over 9,120 books, which have been shipped to Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Cameroon, Malawi, Tanzania, Liberia, Kenya, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Vietnam, and Haiti. The next shipment will be to India.

The Cub Scouts of Pack 521 will be dropping off book requests on March 3 and picking up donations on March 10. To arrange a book pickup, please contact Gabriela De La Garza (see your Garrett Park directory), or place any books you would like to contribute in the plastic bin below the bulletin board in the Post Office.

Thank you for your contribution.

Green Again

Hip, hip, hooray! We are funded for the rest of this printing year for our green banner. For this month, Cal and Betty Baldwin chipped in, and we thank them for their donation. If you would care to sponsor a green banner for the next printing year, please make out a check for \$45 to the Citizens Association and mail it to me at Box 98.

Part of your Citizens Association dues funds this publication, as well as the 4th of July festivities, the Newcomers Welcome, and the Town Dinner. Send your dues in the enclosed envelope to Box 456 or bring them to the Town Dinner, February 4. See you there.

Mary Moyer

The Garrett Bugle is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the Bugle is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:

Mario Grande (mfgrande@aol.com) Todd Harris President:

Vice-President: Treasurer: Lara Hines Leslie Bethke-Pope

Bugle staff:

Editor: Barbara Collier (Box 191)

Reporters: Margaret Soltan (Box 518), Mary Moyer (Box 98)

Ads: Mary Moyer (Box 98)

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Subscriptions: Jane Salomon (Box 227)

Distribution: Peggy Pratt

First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to Bugle staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Administrator Notes

Leaf collection has finished for the year. Chances are you may have a few leaves left over. You can either pile them up in a corner of your yard for composting (the Town Office has composting bins available for free—stop by and pick one up, if you like), or bag the leaves for the yard waste pickup the first Monday in February (Feb. 6). Please use the paper yard waste bags. If you missed the scheduled Christmas tree pickup, just put your tree out, and we will take it away.

Snow has not yet fallen in any significant amount. This is very good for our budget, but unlikely to last. So please remember that it is especially important to try to park off the streets when snow is expected so that the town crew can clear them curb to curb whenever possible. This will allow for more space to park after the streets are plowed. If you have a special need for your driveway to be open—medical supplies, caregiver services, etc.—please call the office and let us know, so that we can make sure your driveway is among the first to have the plowed snow pushed aside.

FY 2013 budget development has begun. If you have questions or would like more information, please call the office. If you have suggestions for next year's budget, you should contact members of the Town Council or the Mayor.

I'd like to thank the many residents who generously gave tips to the Montgomery County Sanitation employees who take away our trash, recyclables, and yard waste. A fine year-end gift was made to each of the four men, and letters of acknowledgement will be sent out to all who gave before the end of January.

Best wishes for the New Year from all of us who work for you as town employees—we enjoy working for you and do our best to provide you with as high a level of service as is possible. Suggestions as to how we may do this better are always welcome!

Finally, in these winter months it is often hard for some of the town's residents to get out. Please try to be particularly alert for a friend or neighbor who might need a little extra support this time of year. If there is any way you feel that we here at the office might be able to help out, please call or drop by.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator, Garrett-park@ comcast.net, 301-933-7488

Office in Penn Place Available to Rent

One of the offices on the top floor of Penn Place, 4600 Waverly Avenue in Garrett Park, will be available to rent from February 1.

Approximately 187 square feet, this is a corner office, lots of natural light through two windows, and overlooks Waverly-Schuylkill Park.

Please contact the Garrett Park Town Office for lease terms and other information: 301-933-6448, garrett-park@comcast.net

GPFS Presents I Am Love

Each year, in honor of Valentine's Day, the GPFS shows something utterly romantic. This year is no exception, but *I Am Love* (*Sono l'amore*; 2009; in Italian) is more than a love story. In his review of the film, Roger Ebert stated, "*I Am Love* is an amazing film. It is deep, rich, and human. It is not about rich and poor, it is about old and new. It is about the ancient war between tradition and feeling."

Set in 2000, the film follows a powerful, wealthy Milanese family as it faces changing times. The story centers on Emma Ricchi (Tilda Swinton), the Russian wife of an Italian textile magnate and heart of the proud and wealthy Ricchi family. Events cause her to question her life, its limits, and assumptions, so when her senses are aroused by a young chef and his food, she risks all to pursue her passions. A bit melodramatic, perhaps, but "soaringly beautiful," "carefully composed and framed, gorgeously appointed, superbly choreographed and accompanied by a thrilling musical score" according to reviewers from the *NY Times* and *Washington Post*. All in all, it seems pretty appropriate for Valentine's Day.

The film will be shown at the Town Hall at 8 pm. It is rated R and is not appropriate for children. Admission is free to GPFS members; others pay \$5 per person.

Since this is also a "foodie" movie, those who attend can expect something special for dinner, which will be served at 7 pm. Cost for dinner is about \$10. Soda, water, beer, and wine will be available at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5.





Seniors Committee

Activities

All Garrett Park residents (not just seniors) are welcome to attend Tuesday Lunch Bunch and Thursday Happy Hour. Please cut and save the 2012 dates opposite.

Questionnaire

The Seniors Committee has been meeting monthly for the past three years to discuss and address questions and concerns related to independent living (also known as Aging in Place). We invite all residents to take a moment to respond to the questions below to help us update our concerns and information. Thank you!

Refrigerator Reminder List, 2012			
Lunch Bunch	Happy Hour		
12:30 pm, 2 nd Tuesdays	2–4 pm, 4 th Thursdays		
Jan. 10	Jan. 26		
Feb. 14	Feb. 23		
Mar. 13	Mar. 22		
Apr. 10	Apr. 26		
May 8	May 24		
June 12	June 28		
	July 26		
			
Sept. 11	Sept. 27		
Oct. 9	Oct. 25		
Nov. 13	Nov. 15*		
Dec. 11			
*Switched to third week because of holiday			

If you can recommend any of the following from personal experience, please provide contact information:

Handyman/woman? Yard workers? Caregivers?

or Licensed Practical Nurses? Yes Would you be willing to be a buddy in a telephone tree as a way to

check in daily (briefly) with a senior neighbor who would like this? Would you be willing to

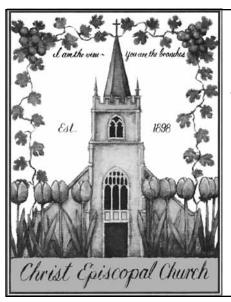
Homecare Registered Nurses

- a) be a driver for medical appointments, errands, or grocery shopping?
- b) drive to and/or from a social event in the evening?
- c) do grocery shopping?

Would you be interested in attending a weekend afternoon mini-conference held at the Garrett Park Town Hall with brief presentations by speakers/vendors related to senior issues such as Oasis, Houseworks, MC Fire and Rescue Service, AARP, and more?

Please use the space opposite for any comments, questions, concerns, issues you'd like us to consider in general and specifically for the conference. (You're welcome to use another piece of paper and return it along with the questionnaire.)

No



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Name: (optional)

Please return to Elizabeth in the Town Office, 3rd floor, Penn Place.

Citizens Association News

Annual Town Dinner

The annual Garrett Park Town Dinner is Saturday, February 4. The theme of the 2012 dinner is "Pets"—pet dogs, pet cats, pet chickens, pet rabbits, pet projects, and of course, don't forget a Garrett Park favorite, pet peeves! If Garrett Park has one thing, it has plenty of pets to go around. Please join us in the fun and share your favorite pet story.

Doors of the Town Hall (Kenilworth Avenue) will open at 6 pm, and we will sit down at 6:30 pm. As always, this is a pot luck dinner. Along with your own serving and eating utensils, you are asked to bring one of the following: appetizer, salad and bread, main dish, or dessert (enough for 8 to 10 people). A fee of \$5 per person will be collected at the door to cover the cost of decorations, non-alcoholic drinks, and paper goods. We encourage you to pay your Citizens Association annual dues at the same time (\$10 for individuals or \$20 per family). Alcoholic beverages will not be provided; however, please feel free to BYOB.

Space is limited, so reserve your seats by contacting Mario Grande at mfgrande@aol.com as soon as possible. Please be sure to state and spell

Meeting on Cambria Courts

A reminder that on Saturday, January 28, from 10:30 am to noon at the Town Hall, the Parks and Open Space Committee (POSCO) is sponsoring an open meeting of interested Garrett Park citizens to gather input on how best to rehabilitate Cambria Courts. Copies of a draft plan developed by Goshen Enterprises, which are intended primarily to elicit comments and suggestions, will be distributed at the meeting. A larger copy will be on display at the PO as well.

POSCO encourages families, parents and children, to attend this open forum. Coffee, cider, and donuts will be served.

From the PO

The PO staff hope that everybody had a merry Christmas and will have a happy new year. They thank everyone for the wonderful good wishes and holiday gifts from the residents.

Now for the bad news. On January 22, the price of a first class stamp goes up to 45¢. However, if you have been buying and saving the Forever stamps, they will assume the new value. Personally I'm saving mine for four or five years hence.

We heard that Maria is doing fine at her new job at the Poolesville PO, and everybody there loves her, just as we do.

Mary Moyer

your name, the number of people attending, and the dish you plan to bring. This is an adult only event.

Finally, the 2012 Officers of the Citizens Association will be elected at the dinner. If you are interested in joining the board or helping out with the CA, please contact Mario Grande at mfgrande@aol.com.

See you then.

Suggestions for the GPCA? The GPCA is looking for suggestions and topics for the February and March meetings. If you have an idea or topic, or other comments for the Citizens Association, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Mario Grande mfgrande@aol.com.

Garrett Park listserv. To join this electronic forum, which allows neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo. com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Tour the World at GPES!

Garrett Park residents have an opportunity to see the new school and have fun at the 27th Annual International Night at Garrett Park Elementary School. This popular event takes place at 6 pm, Saturday, January 28.

Visit over 25 countries! Sample delicious foods and learn about the different cultures of GPES families. Experience the diverse cultural performance, featuring GPES students: fabulous dances, music, and more. And don't miss the International Dress Parade—more than 100 students participate in traditional costumes!

And it's all free!



Bugle Notes... Sweet and Sour

- From proud grandma Mary: Sean and Cornelia Ruttkay had a baby girl on December 1, weighing in at 7 pounds, 8 ounces. The family is doing fine.
- Long-time resident Grace Human died shortly after midnight Saturday, January 6. Grace turned 99 this past August. A memorial service was scheduled for January 16 at Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Obituary

Janet Eleanor Howard

My mother, Janet Eleanor Howard, was born on April 18, 1913, in Chicago, Illinois, and died January 6, 2012, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She and her husband Fred lived in Garrett Park for 59 years until 2007, when they moved to Ann Arbor to be closer to me (her daughter, Jill Barker; her son John died in 1991). Survivors include her husband Fred (now 101 years old); my husband, John Barker, and me; daughter-in-law Gretchen Howard; and grandchildren Danny, Ian, and Jennie Barker, and Jonathan (and wife Cathy) and Jeremiah (and wife Jenn) Howard. She also leaves four great-grandchildren: Jacob, Riley, Braden, and John Alan.

Janet graduated from Northwestern University in 1934, where she first met future Garrett Parkers George and Elsa Guernsey and Elsa's sister, Nadia Lessin.

Janet worked as an elementary school librarian for the Montgomery County Public Schools from 1957 to 1977. She was active in town activities as a charter member of the GP Swimming Pool (I understand there is a picture of her with George Payne at the swimming pool entrance), girl scouts, the GP Women's Club, and the Book Club. She was a watercolorist and took lessons from Martha Seigel in her later years. Janet and Fred were known for the Friday afternoon cocktail party that they hosted for over 20 years.

Janet and Fred were able to stay in their Garrett Park home well into their nineties because of the love and kindness of their many friends and neighbors. A special thanks to Marian Green, Carolyn and Ed Shawaker, and others who made that possible.

The fuzzy thinking that came with old age was not all bad for my mother: a few months ago she said that Marian Green had dropped off a delicious coffee cake at their assisted living facility; a few weeks ago, that my brother John had brought her oatmeal for breakfast; and that she loved the view of Lake Michigan (175 miles away) from her hospital room. All pleasant thoughts.

A GP Town Hall memorial is being planned for sometime this spring.

If anyone would like to be in touch with Fred Howard, his address is 2865 S. Main St., #111, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Jill Barker

David Altar David.Altar1@gmail.com (301) 602-2713

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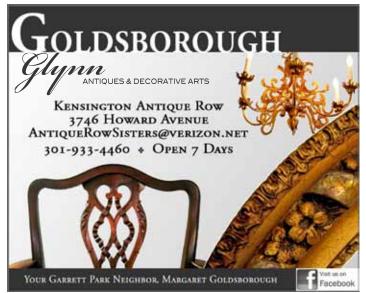
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"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"





GPES

We have arrived! The extra workmen's trucks and cars should be gone from the streets, the buses should be making their way down Kenilworth, and the staff is filling the parking lot. If you haven't noticed, parking is at a premium. There is still construction on the four-room addition going on, but that should be finished soon.

The move went off without too much trouble—several filing cabinets were misplaced for a while, furniture in the wrong rooms, and bulletin boards smaller than desired. No more blackboards, or almost—there is only one in the whole school; it's all white boards and Promethean boards. And the building is BIG. A pair of roller skates would make a great difference.

Everything was up and ready for the return of the 565 students with a minimum of fuss. The

open houses that were held gave the community an opportunity to see the building without the children, and there may be another open house in the future once we've settled in. Two of our town representatives got themselves locked out on the roof while inspecting the greenery planted there and had to be rescued.

The staff would like to thank all the residents who came out of the woodwork and volunteered their time and talents to packing up at Grosvenor and unpacking at our new home. There are still opportunities to volunteer at the school, either one-on-one in a classroom, during lunch, for the clubs which have started up again, or working on the scrapbook that is being prepared for guests to look at in the main office. Call the school at our old number (301-929-2170) if you can help out.

Mary Moyer

Garrett Park Goes for the Green

The town of Garrett Park is seeking statewide recognition under the Sustainable Maryland Certified Program (www.sustainablemaryland.com). The free voluntary municipal program offers resources to communities looking for cost-effective and strategic ways to protect their natural assets. Using best practices in resource areas like water, air, waste, energy, equity, and economy, a municipality earns points toward sustainability certification. Our town already has some "best practices" in place, such as holding a farmer's market and being an arboretum. Garrett Park Conservation Action Network is leading the process, which begins with forming a Green Team and developing an action plan. Sustainable Maryland Certified offers a menu of actions, allowing communities to choose activities specific to their needs and to plan across community priorities to achieve multiple community benefits. Residents interested in contributing their ideas and talents can contact Karen Anderson or Joanne Schmader.

Ask me about the GREENSAIL ADVANTAGE www.greensailrealty.com Beth Irons, GRI Broker/Owner 301.942.4849 ECOBROKER Lagreen Lagreen

Winter Jobs List 2012

The young people listed below are available to perform the tasks shown. Remember, the jobs list is maintained in the Town Office, so you can always call the town staff at 301-933-7488, either to get a referral or to put yourself on the list to be contacted.

Please see the list in the printed Bugle. It is the Bugle's policy not to include names of minor children, private telephone numbers, or private e-mail addresses in the e-Bugle.

Letter from the Mayor

Of note this month are the two "re-openings" of institutions that benefit our youngest residents: Garrett Park Elementary School at its brand-new facility, and the Garrett Park Cooperative Nursery School at the renovated Community Center. GPES is now housed in a brighter, more modern facility. The school is also vastly larger, but thanks to hard work by dedicated staff and teachers, it retains the friendly, individualized feel that has always characterized GPES.

On January 17, nursery school students returned to the Community Center, which has been beautifully renovated by the Nursery School itself. Just over one year ago the town received the Community Center property from the Montgomery County Parks Department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Nursery School invested well over a quartermillion dollars in renovation and upgrades to the structure. Congratulations to the Nursery School Board, parents, alums, and other supporters for a job well done! The building has been given a new lease on life with the backing of many people; the core workers—Gerilee Bennett, Tara Flynn, Alison Pearce, and Brenda Artim—deserve special thanks for the long hours they put toward the successful renovation.

Because the park and Community Center building were transferred to the town at no cost, the town has added a substantial property to its physical assets for a relatively modest investment. The greatest reward is the preservation of a building and an institution that resonate deeply in the history of the town. Built by volunteer efforts of residents 60 years ago, and home of the Nursery School for nearly as long, the Community Center represents a thread of continuity and collaboration that is rare in our contemporary world.

At GPES, the student population and the number of busses has increased, with corresponding growth in pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The town recently installed replacement sidewalk on streets leading to school. We hope that the safer surface thus afforded to pedestrians will encourage larger numbers to walk to school. We will work with MCPS to promote walking,

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biking, and carpooling to the school. Even under the best of circumstances, however, the volume of traffic will pose challenges. Recognizing the difficulties presented by vehicular traffic in particular, the town instituted new parking restrictions for a limited time while all parties—the town, GPES, and those traveling to and from the school—assess the impact of the reopened school. After an appropriate trial period, we will discuss permanent steps that will meet the needs of both residents and the school.

I want to thank town residents Stephanie Salvatore, Sal Cortes, and Jim Fitzgerald for lending a hand at the Oxford/Kenilworth intersection in the initial days of the reopened GPES. For the most part, traffic flowed smoothly, but we saw enough careless driving that I want to emphasize our need to be mindful of adherence to safe driving, throughout town but most especially in the neighborhood of GPES and the Nursery School. Please observe the "no right turn on red" prohibition at Strathmore and Kenilworth; we too often witness indifference to other laws by drivers in Garrett Park—speeding, failing to come to a full stop at the town's few stop signs, or failing to yield to oncoming traffic at our handful of "yield" signs. It is dismaying that a significant number of those flouting these rules (and common courtesy) are town residents. I expect that more of us than would care to admit are guilty of at least an occasional lapse. Let each of us add to our new year's resolutions the promise to drive safely and with adherence to laws and common sense.

Finally, I want to return to the subject with which I opened this letter: the importance of Garrett Park's younger residents. The Parks and Open Spaces Committee is providing a terrific opportunity for Garrett Park youth to voice their views and influence the potential renovation of Cambria Courts (the area to the east of the swimming pool). Please come—and, most especially, encourage children of all ages to attend—when POSCO hosts a charrette at the Town Hall on Saturday, January 28, from 10:30 to noon. This is a splendid chance to air some ideas about the rehabilitation of Cambria Courts.

Chris Keller

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